

Agenda Item 6

Public Questions to be answered at the Council meeting on 16 March 2023.

Members of the Executive to answer the following questions submitted by members of the public in accordance with the [Council's Constitution](#):

- (A) Question not related to an item of business to be answered by the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Transformation submitted by Kathryn Hodgson:**

“What steps are the council taking to deal with the horrendous litter problem on our roadsides which are a blight on all our lives and reflect badly to visitors to our area?”

- (B) Question not related to an item of business to be answered by the Portfolio Holder for Health and Wellbeing submitted by Vaughan Miller:**

“Given that West Berkshire Council is planning to cease funding and delivery of the "Community Based Support & Community Building" service on 31st March this year, a service targeting people with a long term conditions, mental ill health, people with a physical or learning disability and people at risk of being lonely or socially isolated. This service has benefitted more than a hundred people with mental health issues in smaller West Berkshire communities, can the council confirm the reasons for discontinuing this vital service for these communities”

- (C) Question not related to an item of business to be answered by the Portfolio Holder for Internal Governance and Strategic Partnerships submitted by Paul Morgan:**

“The Constitution states that “Strategic and key operational decision making at an officer level is undertaken through Corporate Board which meets fortnightly” - Is there any reason why the agenda items and minutes of these Corporate Board meetings are not available to the public and members”

- (D) Question not related to an item of business to be answered by the Portfolio Holder for Health and Wellbeing submitted by Vaughan Miller:**

“Can the Council confirm which of the nine services in the Voluntary Sector Prospectus are to be discontinued”

- (E) Question not related to an item of business to be answered by the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Economic Development submitted by Paul Morgan:**

“I wrote to the CEO and Executive Director (Resources), copying all members on 22 February 2023 regarding serious concerns with respect to the Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) especially as it relates (or not) to the Monks Lane Sports Hub. How long do you think is reasonable to wait for a response”

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- (F) Question not related to an item of business to be answered by the Portfolio Holder for Housing Leisure and Culture submitted by Vaughan Miller:**

“Has the council revised its business case for the operation of the Sports Hub, given the impact of inflation and the increases in energy costs since this was first published and what is now expected to be the ongoing subsidy the council is committing future administrations to over the next 20 to 40 years”

- (G) Question not related to an item of business to be answered by the Portfolio Holder for Housing Leisure and Culture submitted by Vaughan Miller:**

“It has been 3 years since the Playing Pitch Strategy was published. Why has the Council not yet published the Schedule E review that was due last year”

- (H) Question related to an item of business to be answered by the Leader and District Strategy and Communications submitted by Paul Morgan:**

“Why is it anticipated that the SD (Transformation) post will temporary (2 years) and be filled internally? Surely recruitment from external and / or non-governmental organisations would provide the chance to deliver real and sustained transformation?”

- (I) Question related to an item of business to be answered by the Leader and District Strategy and Communications submitted by Alan Pearce:**

“This Item was published on the forward plan on the 23rd of February 2023, the Decision type: non-key, Decision status: for determination, and Decision due: 16th of March 2023. Nigel Lynn (CEO) author of the C4345 decision report, stated at section 2 Recommendations(s) 2.1 To; (a) create (b) create and (c) delegate. My assumption is this report is for committee members to note only, as no recommendation for members to approve the decision has been given. The report states not subject to call-in, and the Item is due to be referred to the Council for final approval. This Item has not been published on the forward plan with 28 days' notice. Please would the Council confirm this is a key decision resulting in the Council incurring significant costs, which has not been published on the forward plan with 28 days' notice, and as it's not an urgent item decision it will not be voted on tonight?”